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Sixty-first year

Identical letters dated 7 August 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the following decision taken by the Lebanese Council of Ministers earlier today.

> "The Lebanese Government reaffirms its readiness to deploy a Lebanese armed force of 15,000 troops in South Lebanon as the Israeli army withdraws behind the Blue Line, as well as its readiness to agree on requesting the assistance of additional forces from the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), as needed, to facilitate the entry of the Lebanese armed forces into the region. All of this is on the basis of the 7-point plan, which was approved by the Cabinet.
>
> "The Government also restates its intention to strengthen the Lebanese armed forces with material, as needed, to enable it to perform its duties."

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 14 and of the Security Council. An identical letter has been sent to the President of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Caroline **Ziade**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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